

REMARKS

Please enter the above amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee. Claims 1-20 presently appear in this case. The amendments to the claims are being made to eliminate all multiple dependencies, so as to reduce the filing fee, and to place the claims in better condition for examination.

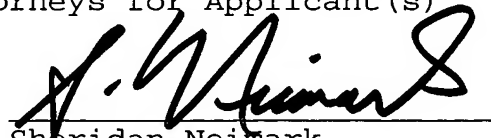
Such amendments are made entirely without prejudice to applicant's rights to later present claims of varying scope encompassed by the multi-dependencies deleted above, applicants respectfully reserving their right to add claims at a later stage commensurate in scope with claims which may have been eliminated by the removal of all multi-dependencies. The amendments made above are thus made without dedication, disclaimer, abandonment, waiver, forfeiture, renunciation, concession, and/or surrender of any kind. The amendments made above are not "narrowing" amendments. The scope of the claims has not been reduced; no limitations have been added and none are intended.

Applicant now respectfully awaits the results of a first examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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